

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 02246 181108Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SP-02 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05 DODE-00 INRE-00 PA-02 USIE-00
H-02 ACDA-12 L-03 /064 W
-----040409 181131Z /23

O R 181027Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5018
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS ATHENS 2246

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, GR, US
SUBJECT: REACTION TO FORGED STATE DEPARTMENT TELEGRAM

REF: ATHENS 2243

1. THE PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSION YESTERDAY (MARCH 17) ON THE
MONTREUX SUMMIT WAS THE FEATURE NEWS STORY ON TV AND RADIO YESTERDAY
EVENING AND IN THIS MORNING'S PRESS. THE GOVERNMENT-OPERATED TV
AND RADIO DID NOT MENTION THE ALLEGED STATE DEPARTMENT TELEGRAM
TABLED BY PAPANDREOU (ATHENS 2205 AND 2206) IN THEIR NEWSCASTS

THE VIDEOTAPE BROADCAST OF THE PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS ON TV
INCLUDED PAPANDREOU'S FULL STATEMENT. HOWEVER, PAPANDREOU'S
CHARGE AND OUR STATEMENT CHARACTERIZING THE ALLEGED TELEGRAM AS
A FORGERY (REFTEL) WAS CARRIED BY ALL OF THIS MORNING'S
NEWSPAPERS.

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2. ONLY ONE PAPER, OPPOSITION-LIBERAL TO VIMA, CHOSE TO TREAT
THE ISSUE AS ITS MAIN STORY WITH THE HEADLINE, "H. KISSINGER'S
TELEGRAM CREATES AN INCIDENT--THE STATE DEPARTMENT CHARACTERIZES
IT A FORGERY--MR A. PAPANDREOU INSISTS IT IS AUTHENTIC."
THE PAPERS CARRY EITHER THE FULL TEXT OR SUMMARIES OF THE ALLEGED
TELEGRAM AND ALL CARRY THE FULL TEXT OF THE EMBASSY'S STATEMENT
(REFTEL.)

3. TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS ALSO CARRY A STATEMENT ISSUED LAST NIGHT BY PAPANDREOU IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EMBASSY'S ANNOUNCEMENT. HE SAID: "I AM NOT SURPRISED BY THE SPEED WITH WHICH THE STATE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATED THE MATTER AND CONCLUDED THAT THE TEXT IS NOT AUTHENTIC. I WONDER WHETHER THE PHOTOCOPY WHICH I TABLED IN PARLIAMENT HAS ALREADY REACHED THE USA SO THAT THERE COULD BE A FINAL AND RESPONSIBLE JUDGMENT. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE REVELATION OF KISSINGER'S TELEGRAM, THAT IS, THE DISCLOSURE OF KISSINGER'S WELL-KNOWN POLICY TOWARDS GREECE AND CYPRUS, JUSTIFIABLY CAUSED PANIC. NATURALLY I EXPECTED THE STATE DEPARTMENT DENIAL. WHAT ELSE COULD IT DO."
MCCLOSKEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DOCUMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FORGERY, SUMMIT MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, MONTREUX
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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TAGS: PEPR, GR, US, CY, (PAPANDREOU), (KISSINGER, HENRY)
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